## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1    1.    (Currently Amended) A method of installing software in a system, comprising:

2         during an installation procedure, providing a user prompt to request entry of a key;

3         determining whether an entered key is proper;

4         in response to determining that the entered key is proper, installing the software in the

5    system and storing the entered key; [[and]]

6         in response to determining that the entered key is not proper, installing the software in the

7    system and enabling activation of first code to prompt for entry of the key at a later time;

8         after enabling activation of the first code, executing the first code during a boot procedure

9    of the system; and

10        during execution of the first code, providing another prompt for entry of a second key.


1    2.    (Cancelled)


1    3.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, further comprising:

2         determining, by the first code, whether the second key is proper; and

3         not executing the installed software in response to the second key not being proper.


1    4.    (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising storing the second key in a registry

2    in response to the second key being proper.


1    5.    (Cancelled)


1    6.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[5]] 4, further comprising:

2         during execution of the installed software, providing a prompt for entry of a second a

3    third key.


2

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1    7.    (Currently Amended)  The method of claim 6, further comprising:

2        determining whether the ~~second~~ third key is proper; and

3        stopping execution of the installed software in response to determining that the ~~second~~

4    third key is not proper.


1    8.    (Currently Amended)  The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2        during execution of the installed software, providing a prompt for entry of a ~~second~~ third

3    key;

4        determining whether the ~~second~~ third key is proper; and

5        stopping execution of the installed software in response to determining that the ~~second~~

6    third key is not proper.


1    9.    (Currently Amended)  A system comprising:

2        a processor; and

3        a storage containing installation code for operating software executable by the processor,

4    the installation code when executed to cause the processor to:

5            provide a prompt to request entry of a first key;

6            determine whether the first key is proper;

7            in response to determining that the first key is proper, install the operating

8    software and store the first key in the storage; [[and]]

9            in response to determining that the first key is not proper, install the operating

10   software and enable activation of first code to prompt for entry of a key at a later time;

11            after enabling activation of the first code, execute the first code during a boot

12   procedure of the system,

13            wherein execution of the first code causes the processor to:

14                provide another prompt for entry of a second key; and

15                determine whether the second key is proper.


1    10. – 11. (Cancelled)


3

1    12.    (Currently Amended)  The system of claim [[11]] 9, wherein execution of the first code

2    causes the processor to further:

3           in response to determining that the second key is proper, enable execution of the

4    operating software and store the second key in the storage; and

5           in response to determining that the second key is not proper, not execute the operating

6    software.


1    13. – 14.  (Cancelled)


1    15.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 9, wherein the storage contains a registry to

2    store the first key in response to determining that the first key is proper.


1    16.    (Currently Amended)  An article comprising at least one storage medium containing

2    instructions that when executed cause a system to:

3           during an installation procedure, provide a user prompt to request entry of a key;

4           determine whether an entered key is proper;

5           in response to determining that the entered key is proper, install the software in the

6    system and store the entered key; [[and]]

7           in response to determining that the entered key is not proper, install the software in the

8    system and enable activation of first code to prompt for entry of the key at a later time;

9           after enabling activation of the first code, execute the first code during a boot procedure

10   of the system; and

11          during execution of the first code, provide another prompt for entry of a second key.


1    17.    (Cancelled)


1    18.    (Currently Amended)  The article of claim [[17]] 16, wherein the instructions when

2    executed cause the system to further:

3           determine, by the first code, whether the second key is proper; and

4           not execute the installed software in response to the second key not being proper.


4

1    19.    (Cancelled)

1    20.    (Currently Amended)  The article of claim [[19]] 18, wherein the instructions when

2    executed cause the system to further:

3            during execution of the installed software, provide a prompt of another key in response to

4    the entered key and the second key not being proper.

5